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4. After the election of the Presidium, several commissions were constituted, among them the following:

Credentials Commission  
Political Commission  
Discipline Commission  
Organization Commission  
Statutes Commission  
Finance Commission  
Press Commission

5. A Presidium of Honor was then elected, headed by Stalin, and including such leaders as Mao Tse Tung, Lin Pao, Chou En Lai, Maurice Thorez, Palmiro Togliatti, Pablo Neruda, and Luiz Carlos Prestes.
6. A commission composed of Tirso Gomez, Patricio Cueva Jaramillo, and Corsino Duran was named to greet the Juventud Comunista torch-bearing relay runners due at the Inaugural Session of the Congress that evening.
7. The remaining period of the Preparatory Session was devoted to the following topics:
- a) A general discussion of methods to amplify the "defense of the worker."
  - b) A general discussion of the "Comite Juvenil Pro-Paz Mundial", and a decision to support it financially.
  - c) A general discussion, led by Alfredo Vera Vera, of the problem of war in the world of today. Vera bitterly blamed the United States for causing the as yet undeclared World War III. He further blasted the American banana companies for ruthlessly exploiting Ecuadorian labor, especially in the Province of Esmeraldas.
  - d) A listing by Pedro Saad of different points to be covered in the inaugural Session. Saad asked the delegates present if they felt more points should be put to the Inaugural Session for discussion but received an emphatic negative answer from the delegates, who stated they did not wish to stay up until 4:00 a.m. at the first night session.
  - e) A general discussion and criticism of anti-Communist propaganda appearing on the walls throughout Ambato which was blamed on Accion Revolucionaria Nacional Ecuatoriana (ARNE). Pedro Saad recommended that all Communists "show their culture" by paying absolutely no attention to the anti-Communist propaganda.
8. The Preparatory Session broke up at approximately 5:30-6:00 p.m.
9. Inaugural Session: At 9:00 p.m. on 24 July, the Inaugural Session of the Congress got under way in the Teatro Inca, owned by one Cosme Romano, who has been reported a Communist Party member. The theater was completely full, and attendance at this session has been estimated at from 700 to 1000. The municipal band was on hand at the beginning of the session.
10. The stage of the Teatro Inca was arranged as follows: in the center, at the rear of the stage, was a large portrait of Stalin, flanked on the right by the Ecuadorian flag and on the left by the Soviet flag. Seated at this table were Pedro Saad, Enrique Gil Gilbert, Manuel Oswaldo Alborno Peralta, Dr. Aquiles Valencia, Jorge Almeida Hidalgo, and Jaime Galarza. Also reported present on the stage were Rafael Echeverria, Ricardo Paredes, Olga Munoz, Dr. Jorge Sanchez, Jorge Meneses, Cesar Enrique Endara Gonzalez, Pedro Ortiz Aldas, Tirso Gomez, Jose Maria Davalos (aka Jose Antonio Davalos), Ligia de Caicedo, Ghandi Burbano, Marcia Barahona Gonzalez, Ruben Calderon (delegate from the Communist Party of Cuba), and Jaime Barrios (delegate from and Secretary of Organization of the Communist Party of Colombia).

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11. The session began with a declaration by Enrique Gil Gilbert to the effect that the Fifth Congress of the PCE was officially inaugurated. Olga Munoz, in the name of the Juventud Comunista Femenina, next took the floor and, after praising the work of the young women of the Party, presented a Communist flag to Pedro Saad. Jose Maria Davalos then took the speakers' stand and officially greeted the delegates present at the Congress. This greeting was answered by Dr. Ricardo Paredes, founder of the PCE. Paredes bitterly attacked the United States and singled out the Military Pact signed by the United States and Ecuador as his principal target. He mouthed standard Communist phrases about world peace and Yankee Imperialism.
12. At this point the session was interrupted by the arrival of a group of 11 youths, members of the Juventud Comunista, who escorted to the stage a relay runner holding a burning "torch of peace" which had been brought from Quito. In addition to this symbol, they carried a large Communist flag, and two youths, one dressed as a laborer, the other as a farmer, crossed a hammer and a sickle on the stage, receiving prolonged applause from the audience.
13. The session was resumed, and Ruben Calderon (also reported as Rigido Calderon), the fraternal delegate from Cuba, addressed the assembly. He spoke for only a short period, discussing the problems facing Cuba under Batista, and the necessity for Latin America to unite to stop Yankee Imperialism. He mentioned that several countries, among them Argentina, Guatemala, and Mexico, have not signed military pacts with the United States, not because of the governments of those countries but rather because of the immense pressure exercised on their governments by the common people, who oppose the "ravenous Yankees". Calderon exhorted the Ecuadorans present to do everything in their power to prevent the ratification of the military pact. The alternative was portrayed as a complete loss of national sovereignty. His manner of speaking was highly effective and roundly applauded by the audience.
14. The chorus of the Juventud Comunista, composed of some 25 persons and directed by Corsino Duran, then sang the Ecuadoran national anthem, followed by the Internationale, and other revolutionary songs. Ligia de Calcedo then recited a revolutionary poem, and a young girl sang folk songs.
15. Several resolutions were then read to the Assembly, covering the following points:
  - a) The PCE opposes the intervention of the United States and its warlike policy in the affairs of other nations.
  - b) The PCE supports the Confederacion de Trabajadores del Ecuador (CTE).
  - c) The PCE opposes the plan to have the United States firm Morrison-Knudsen build the Quevedo-Manta highway.
  - d) The PCE salutes all the Communist parties of the world.
16. Rafael Echeverria, in the name of the Juventud Comunista del Ecuador, then took the speaker's stand, stating that the JC had faith in the Congress but that the Congress must work out solutions to the problems besetting the Party without fear, vacillation, or regard to personal sacrifice. He stated that Communism has failed in its mission in Ecuador because of a lack of decision, discipline, and valor in the fight for the interests of the Party. He did not show himself to be a good speaker.
17. Pedro Saad next took the floor and spoke for almost two hours about the following subjects:
  - a) The danger of a new war.
  - b) The Korean situation.
  - c) The war economy of the United States and other imperialist nations.

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- d) The support given by the United States to reactionary coups and governments in Cuba, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Chile, and Brazil.
  - e) The necessity of nationalizing foreign business interests in Ecuador.
  - f) The special necessity of beginning a campaign for the nationalization of Ecuador's petroleum industry.
  - g) World Peace - the scheduling for December 1952 of the Third Congress for Peace in Peiping, China.
  - h) The influence of the United States in closing the Communist Labor Union Center in Paris and causing the arrest of Jacques Duclos.
  - i) The "World Conference of Capitalists who do not want War", which met in Moscow.
  - j) Agrarian reform and the necessity of turning over the land to those who work it and not to those who hold the deeds, since these deeds have no real validity in the world of today.
  - k) The plot of the United States to use Brazil against Argentina in order to sow the seed of Latin American strife.
  - l) The servility of the Plaza regime and its puppet, Dr. Antonio J. Quevedo, who, as representative to the United Nations, has voted in the service of Yankee ambitions.
  - m) The conversion of Ecuador into a lackey of the United States by means of the military pact.
  - n) The necessity of blocking the ratification of the military pact.
  - o) The banana-economy problem and unmerciful exploitation by the United States, resulting in lower earnings for Ecuador.
  - p) The failure of right-wing Socialists, who have put themselves at the service of Plaza; the Socialist failure in recent elections.
  - q) The necessity of opposing the regime of Jose Maria Velasco Ibarra, as well as ARNE, Concentracion de Fuerzas Populares (CFP), and Juan Domingo Peron, of Argentina.
18. While Saad was delivering this violently anti-United States speech, the lights suddenly went off throughout the theater, and for some time he spoke in the light of numerous flashlights held by members of the audience. This sabotage was blamed on ARNE and CFP, and vociferous shouts of "Abajo ARNE", "Abajo CFP", filled the theater. Outside the theater a group of some 50 individuals shouted anti-Communist epithets and threw stones at the theater. A station wagon belonging to Franklin Perez Castro was damaged by stones, and two of its tires were slashed. The Ambato police finally succeeded in quelling the disturbance. It was generally believed by the Communists that ARNE members had led the demonstration.
19. The Inaugural Session ended at approximately midnight, with a mandolin solo by Nelson Segura and several songs and recitations by other members of the JC.
20. Plenary Sessions: The First Plenary Session of the Congress opened at the Liceo Montalvo on 25 June; it, and all further sessions, were restricted solely to authorized delegates to the Congress. At this first session delegations from various cells and regions read their reports, and the Credentials Commission named the 105 delegates privileged to remain in the auditorium. Others present were escorted outside. Rules were drawn up regarding the maximum time to be spent on discussion of various points, and an elaborate system for holding discussions was developed, which in effect put an absolute time limit

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of 40 minutes on each point brought up. (This was not strictly observed.) The remainder of the Congress was devoted primarily to plenary sessions, usually three each day. The principal characteristic of the remaining sessions of the Congress was bitter personal strife among the leaders and the delegates present.

21. Charges against Ricardo Paredes: The most heatedly discussed accusations were those aimed at Ricardo Paredes, founder of the PCE. Segundo Ramos Navarete placed the name of Paredes in nomination for membership in the Political Commission, stating that Paredes was by right the Secretary General of the PCE, whereas Pedro Saad had usurped the post. Saad defended his position, stating that the Executive Committee of the PCE had elected him to fill the post after Paredes had asked for an indefinite leave from his post as Secretary General in order to move to Manta and reside in that city. At this point numerous charges were hurled at Paredes, among them the following:

a) Violation of democratic centralism through his attempt to publish a Party newspaper in Manta without advising the Executive Committee.

b) Entering into direct contact with foreign Communist leaders without the knowledge of the Executive Committee or other organisms of the Party. Paredes was charged by Rafael Echeverria with having written directly to Mao Tse Tung asking the latter to furnish scholarships to two comrades in Manta of Chinese extraction, the brothers of Chung Jurado. This letter was answered in a very vague form by Mao and sent to Moscow, where it was translated. When Paredes was last in Moscow he was handed the letter and turned it over to Rafael Echeverria in Warsaw, Poland, for transmittal to Ecuador. Echeverria never returned the letter to Paredes, but, rather, gave it to Pedro Saad. The letter supposedly read substantially as follows: "Comrade Ricardo Paredes, Secretary General of the PCE, I answer your kind letter in which you ask me to facilitate the further study of the Chung Jurado brothers in Peking. I send you my best wishes and inform you that they may come when they consider it convenient, Mao Tse Tung." No indication of date or of possible payment of passage or other aid appeared in the letter. It was apparent that the fact that Paredes had written this letter caused extreme concern to the Congress.

c) Furnishing, without the knowledge of the Executive Committee, a Colombian Communist named (fmx) Suarez with a signed, notarized letter to the effect that he, the Colombian, was an anti-Communist Conservative. This letter appeared in the Colombian press, and Jaime Barrios, the Colombian delegate to the Congress, brought a photostatic copy of the letter with him. Suarez reportedly attended the Warsaw Peace Congress and was unable to re-enter Colombia until Paredes made his written statement, which received considerable publicity in Colombia. Paredes, in his defense before the Congress, denied the whole matter.

d) Collecting money for his trip to the USSR from Indians belonging to the Federacion de Indios. Paredes was accused of collecting money from Indians in the Cayambe region. Modesto Rivera, Communist boss of the Federacion de Indios, further accused Paredes of collecting more money (some \$/8000) from the Indians after his return from Europe.

e) Making false accusations against Nela Martinez, prominent Communist female leader, because she, formerly Paredes' mistress and mother of a child by him, married a French Communist, Raymond Merignat, and would have nothing further to do with Paredes.

22. Paredes took the floor and spoke for three hours against his accusers, principally Pedro Saad, Rafael Echeverria, and Modesto Rivera. His speech reportedly had no coherence, and he was several times warned by the Presidium to get

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back to the point. Paredes dwelled on his long years of service to the Party and recounted in detail his revolutionary activities over the years. It has been reported that the general consensus was that he made a complete fool of himself and did not effectively refute any of the charges made against him. The whole Paredes matter profoundly affected the delegates, since Paredes is considered the "old war horse" of the Party. Many of those present stated their belief that Paredes has degenerated completely as a revolutionary, but that he should be "put out to pasture" by a Party which must recognize his valuable services in the past.

23. Charges against Alfredo Vera Vera: Alfredo Vera Vera was severely criticized in several sessions of the Congress, accused of "rightist deviations" stemming from the time he held the national Ministry of Education under the former Velasco government. He was accused of opportunistic policies in his dealings with the Guevara faction of the Guayaquil Municipal Council, where he has failed to act with proper "revolutionary vigor". Prominent in voicing anti-Vera Vera accusations were Primitivo Barreto, Quito Communist reportedly sent by the Executive Committee to solve PCE problems in Guayaquil, and Bolivar Sandoval, young Communist from the province of Los Rios. Vera was defended by Ana Moreno, Segundo Ramos, Cesario Valverde, and Ricardo Paredes. Nela Martinez also defended Vera, stating that the accusations formulated against him were merely an attempt to make him the scapegoat for all the errors of the PCE. Paredes expressed his opinion that Vera is the most intelligent and loyal of all the members of the PCE.
24. Charges against Manuel Medina Castro: Manuel Medina Castro was also harshly criticized at several sessions for "rightist deviations". He was recommended for his effective fight against the Grace line in the dispute regarding the port of Guayaquil, but was accused of acting on his own without advising higher Party authorities of his plans. Ana Moreno, Segundo Ramos, and Cesario Valverde accused him of acting "as a simple citizen", as though he had no ties with the PCE, and reported that he, Medina, had made statements to the effect that he was fed up with Party discipline. He was further accused of having advised certain comrades to leave the Party if they perceived that Party membership would bring them no personal gain. He was accused of betraying the Party by insisting that Communists in the Guayaquil area support J. Federico Intriago in the recent elections. (Vera was also accused by others of a similar "betrayal".) The accusations against Medina were of unusual bitterness and almost resulted in a fist fight between Medina and Vera on the floor of the Congress.
25. Charges against Nela Martinez: Nela Martinez' first appearance before the Congress resulted in a speech wherein she stressed the need for criticism and self-criticism if the Congress were to achieve any positive results. She thereafter became the target of violent tirades of criticism. She read a political report which she had prepared and was immediately set upon by large numbers of delegates, who charged that her document suffered from serious political and "personalist" errors. She was also blamed for the failure of the Juventud Comunista Femenina which, according to her accusers, was sabotaged by Nela Martinez' practice of urging young female Communists to join the PCE directly, without going through the JC stage. Prominent among her accusers was Patricio Cueva Jaramillo, a young Communist with only some eight months of militancy in the PCE. Her report to the Congress covered the following points:
  - a) The Executive Committee of the PCE, not Alfredo Vera Vera, was responsible for the Communist support given J. Federico Intriago. This resulted in violent criticism from the detractors of Vera.
  - b) The matter of Ricardo Paredes having signed a document appearing in the Colombian press should be investigated, and, if judged guilty, Paredes should be punished accordingly. This resulted in criticism by the friends of Paredes.
  - c) The PCE is not supporting the Juventud Comunista. A JC member should be appointed to the PCE Executive Committee to act as a direct liaison. A JC newspaper should be created and supported by the PCE.

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This resulted in criticism from the floor of Nela Martinez' role in the JC Femenina.

d) Comrades are not raising their children in accord with the political line of the PCE. Dr. Alfonso Quijano Cobos was accused of having his daughters in a convent.

e) The PCE should furnish financial aid to Comrade Ernesto Rossi Delgado, so that he might travel abroad for medical treatment.

26. Charges against Pedro Saad: Segundo Ramos led the attack against Pedro Saad, blaming the latter for the failure of the Communist labor movement in the coastal area.<sup>2</sup> Ramos, who was originally slated for the post of Functional Senator for Labor, accused Saad and his allies on the PCE Executive Committee of "dirty dealing" and fraud in cheating him, Ramos, out of this post. He went on to describe his history as a true member of the laboring class and chided the Executive Committee for backing Saad, who, he stated, has never worked a single day in his lifetime. This accusation caused considerable reaction in the Congress, and violent partisans of Ramos and Saad joined in the battle of invective. Ramos was supported from the floor by the few delegates belonging to the laboring class, while Saad was defended by the "intellectual" majority. The supporters of Saad countered by declaring Ramos a degenerate drunkard and pointing out that only Saad has the necessary Party background and political acumen to hold such an important post in the National Assembly. Some of Saad's supporters on the floor admitted that his being chosen instead of Ramos was somewhat irregular but that it was in the true interests of the Party. It was further stated that the Executive Committee would fully explain this matter to the entire membership of the Party in the coastal area.<sup>3</sup> In his charges against Saad, Ramos also hurled insults at Jaime Barrios and Ruben Calderon, provoking considerable adverse criticism from the audience. Saad then apologized to these two visiting delegates for the rude behavior of Ramos and asked the assembled delegates to give a vote of confidence on their behalf. This action was followed with prolonged applause from the floor. Ramos later begrudgingly retracted his statements against Barrios and Calderon. Barrios was visibly angered by Ramos' statements and asked the Congress to form a committee to investigate him and Calderon fully, in order to assure all present that they were accredited representatives of their respective parties. It was learned later that Calderon had sat in on and actually participated in Executive Committee meetings when it was decided to support Saad rather than Ramos for the post of Functional Senator for Labor. Calderon stated that he had voted for the "more valuable" of the two - Saad.
27. Charges against Franklin Perez Castro: Alfredo Vera Vera opened the attack against Franklin Perez Castro, accusing the latter of "leftist deviations", leading to the virtual destruction of the PCE in Guayaquil. Perez was accused of making no effort to follow the Party line, thereby spoiling the Pro-Paz movement, with resultant confusion from the cell level to the provincial committee. He was further accused of attacking Enrique Gil Gilbert with his fists and of later abandoning his Party duties to move to Salinas, "where he lives like any other bourgeois". Juan Pio Narvaez defended Perez, calling him the most faithful, hardworking PCE member in the coastal area. Narvaez explained that Perez had poured all his personal funds into Party work. He accused Vera and other Guayaquil leaders of sabotaging the Pro-Paz movements in order to discredit Perez. Other delegates warmly defended Perez, pointing especially to his good work in organizing the Communist Party in Tungurahua.
28. Statements of Jose Maria Roura Cevallos: Jose Maria Roura Cevallos, delegate from Pichincha, stated that "rightist deviations" had all but destroyed the effectiveness of the PCE in the Province of Pichincha. He singled out Ricardo Paredes, Maria Luisa Gomez de la Torre, Nela Martinez, and Raymond Meriguet as those responsible for having converted the Party into a scheming group of gossips and rumor-mongers, asking the assembly to castigate these deviationists. He stated that the accused have considerable prestige as old-timers and that they must therefore change their ways or be expelled before they corrupt the younger up-and-coming Communists in the area. He then presented a plan for

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the intensification of propaganda among the laboring classes, aimed principally at the nationalization of foreign business interests in Ecuador. He stressed his view that this is the only practical way to rid Ecuador of foreign imperialists.

29. Statements of Jaime Barrios: The fraternal delegate from Colombia addressed the Congress for some three hours, most of which was spent in tracing the development of the PCC. He told of the tortures being inflicted on Communists in Colombia, including such outrages as the castration of wounded, hospitalized comrades. He went on to say that all the repressive measures of Colombian Conservatism, backed by Yankee Imperialism, have served only to strengthen the PCC, causing more persons to join the cause. He stated that his country was colossally stupid to allow the American Military Mission to train young Colombians and then march them off to die in Korea, that American agents swarm over Colombia dressed in uniforms and mufti, and that all the so-called technical missions are mere tools of the imperialists. According to Barrios, the Colombian liberal guerrillas are not all Communists but have universally recognized the superiority of the dynamic Communist leadership and are actively aiding the Communist cause. He strongly criticized the conduct of the Congress, stating that apparently the only reason the majority of the delegates present came to Ambato was to hurl insults at one another. He stated that such complete discord in a country having such propitious circumstances for the triumph of Communism was another example of colossal stupidity. One point on which Barrios dwelt at length was the necessity for all Communists to live Communist lives and teach all their relatives to be Communists. He stated "if we aren't capable of convincing our families, we shall convince no one." Barrios further discussed unemployment in Colombia (Medellin, Santa Marta, Cartagena, El Valle del Cauca, Bogota), blaming it all on the American Imperialists. Barrios closed his address by recommending "eternal revolutionary vigilance" on the part of all members and more sincere work in Party organizational matters. In another short address he mentioned the coming Peiping Peace Conference and the fact that Ecuador would be allowed to send 12 delegates. He stated that this Conference would be of extreme importance and that the PCE should do its best to send a delegation constituted primarily of capable intellectuals.
30. Statements of Ruben Calderon: Ruben Calderon, fraternal delegate from Cuba, likewise addressed the Congress on several occasions, his speeches being mere repetitions of the usual Party line. Calderon has reportedly been active in PCE affairs since March 1952 and has apparently been in Ecuador on earlier occasions as an advisor to the PCE. He is believed to be a relative of the Cuban Communist leader, Blas Roca, and reportedly uses the name Calderio when traveling. At the Congress he advised the PCE to undertake a purge of its ranks to weed out the weak and vacillating, as well as the infiltrated agents of the "imperialist powers". He further advised the establishment of Party cadre schools to train new leaders. Referring to the CP of Cuba, he stated his belief that General Fulgencio Batista will probably declare the Party illegal, but indicated that the Party was thoroughly prepared to go underground at any moment.
31. Juventud Comunista: Much mention was made throughout the Congress of the Juventud Comunista, which, in the expressed opinions of most delegates, has been sadly neglected. Efraim Alvarez Fiallo, delegate of the JC of Guayas, was particularly active on the floor of Congress in demanding that the Party pay more attention to the JC and immediately set about establishing JC groups in each province where there are none at present. Pedro Saez indicated that the political line to be formulated as a result of the debates of the Congress would put more emphasis on the necessity for developing the JC than was done in the past. Patricio Cueva asked the Congress to expel Jorge Maldonado Benella from the National Council of the JC for ineptitude. Maldonado has, according to his accusers, been devoting most of his time to sales of the Cominform newspaper, Por una Paz Duradera, while neglecting his more important JC duties.
32. Communist influence among Indians: It was noted that no delegates of Indian cells were present at the Congress, nor was any mention made of the existence of such cells. Modesto Rivera stated that the Federacion de Indios will soon

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be run entirely by Indians, members of the PCE. He further stated that considerable progress has been made in establishing Indian unions and that about eight new unions had been formed in Otavalo, three in Rimbamba, and one in Sangolquí, in addition to those already in existence for some time at Cotacachi and Cayambe. Rivera stated that Maria Luisa Gomez de la Torre has abandoned her work with the Indians and has retired to a position of bourgeois luxury at her comfortable home in Quito.

33. The closing session of the Congress were devoted primarily to reports by the various commissions.
34. Report of the Organization Commission: The reading of the Organization Commission report marked the temporary end of the bitter personal accusations which had heretofore been the principal activity of the convention delegates. Primitivo Barreto, the outstanding member of both the Organization and Discipline Commissions, read this report, which purported to outline the new political line of the Party. The report was fully approved by the Congress, and it was announced that a completely new document on Party organization would be published shortly after the Congress for distribution to the entire membership of the Party. Among the new features recommended in the this report were the following:
- a) Introduction of a system of Party identification cards, to be issued to all PCE members.
  - b) Creation of cadre training schools for development of new leadership.
  - c) Printing of a stamp to be used as a dues receipt (suggestion of Ruben Calderon).
  - d) Devotion of special attention to development of industry cells, made up of members of the working class.
  - e) Development of an efficient recruitment technique and process. Special attention to Communization of the families of PCE members.
  - f) Intensification of the fight for peace and against the military pact - devotion of all Party resources to this end.
  - g) Intensification of the effort of Communist intellectuals to unmask and expel the "decadent literature of the imperialists" flooding the country (a proposal of Jorge Enrique Adoum, Communist poet and member of the Casa de la Cultura in Guayaquil).
  - h) Inauguration of a plan to raise \$/100,000 for payment of Party functionaries throughout the country, as well as for propaganda use.
  - i) Formation of cells of farmers throughout the country and establishment of a schedule of visits to be made to these cells by PCE leaders. Formation of a Confederacion de Campesinos.
  - j) Development of a Movimiento Femenina and a Confederacion de Mujeres del Ecuador.
35. Report of the Discipline Commission: The report of the Discipline Commission was read by Aquiles Valencia, who explained the charges against several Party members. The following individuals were expelled from the Party

Pedro Barba  
Hector Pazmino  
Ecuador Jaya (aka Manuel Jaya)  
Manuel Arenas Coello

Alfredo Vera Vera and Manuel Medina Castro were accused of "rightist deviation" and cautioned never again to take the initiative in pledging PCE support to electoral candidates without first securing permission from the Executive Committee.

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36. Report of the Finance Commission: The short report of the Finance Commission involved the following proposals:
- a) Establishment of dues stamps.
  - b) Education of Party members in financial responsibility.
  - c) Establishment of provincial control commissions to handle Party finances.
  - d) Development of new sources of finance, such as the Party press, private social functions for Party benefit, book stores, collection from friends and sympathizers of the Party.
  - e) Initiation of a country-wide fund-raising campaign.

The report indicated that the present status of PCE finance is "disastrous" primarily because of the failure of dues collection throughout the Party. The two principal sources of finances at present are interest payments derived from investments of S/17,500 with the Federacion de Indios and S/12,000 with the "Ruminahui" press in Quito.

37. Report of the Press Commission: Pedro Ortiz Aldas, administrator of the PCE newspaper, El Pueblo, read this report, in which it was explained that PCE members throughout the country owe some S/8,600 in payments for copies of El Pueblo received and presumably sold, of which the Province of Guayas owes approximately half. It was decided that all these debts must be paid within one month of the closing date of the Congress or sanctions will be employed. It was recommended that all PCE entities receiving copies of El Pueblo remit immediately to Quito the value of these papers and then retain the money obtained from their sale. It was also recommended that all Party members selling El Pueblo accompany the sale with a political sales-talk to insure future purchases. Ortiz indicated that El Pueblo will be forced to suspend publication if some solution to the payment problem is not worked out in the near future.
38. Election of the Secretary General: A list of candidates to compose the new directive body of the PCE was drawn up and presented to the Congress by the Presidium. This list was the subject of a new wave of angry debates, since it was composed of many persons who, in the expressed opinions of numerous delegates present, have proven in the past that they lack the necessary attributes of revolutionary vigor. First, it was necessary to elect a Secretary General, and Franklin Perez Castro addressed the Congress asking that Pedro Saad be unanimously elected. Juan Pio Narvaez seconded the motion, but Ana Moreno endorsed Rafael Echeverria for this key position, stating that though he is still young, he is the most outstanding, loyal, and capable member of the PCE. Ricardo Paredes called upon the Congress to support Saad but injected a sour note when he stated that it must be recognized that Saad has committed serious errors in the past. He then explained that his support of Saad was only in the interests of "harmony within the Communist family". Segundo Ramos then proposed that Primitivo Barreto be elected but later, and apparently with considerable reluctance, voted for Saad. Saad was elected Secretary General of the PCE by all but one vote, that of Ana Moreno.
39. When it came time for the election of the Central Committee, Alfredo Vera, whose name appeared on the list of nominees drawn up by the Presidium, asked that his name be withdrawn. He stated that this was being done solely in the interests of Party solidarity and asked permission to say a few words. When this permission was granted he unleashed a series of accusations against PCE members in Guayaquil, putting special emphasis on Franklin Perez Castro and Manuel Medina Castro. He accused Perez of being an irresponsible drunkard and said Perez was courted by the PCE solely because of his relatively good financial position, resulting in contributions to the Party, but portrayed himself as a poor, loyal, hard-working Communist. This last blast at his enemies was the subject of much unfavorable comment from the floor and apparently enhanced the prestige of Perez. The Cuban delegate then discussed the personality of

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Vera, arriving at the conclusion that he is of the type described by Lenin as a "Populist". The voting for the members of the Central Committee then took place. The following were elected:

Rafael Echeverria (Quito, unanimous)  
 Primitivo Barreto (Quito, unanimous)  
 Enrique Gil Gilbert (Guayaquil, unanimous)  
 Oswaldo Albornoz (Quito)  
 Modesto Rivera (Quito)  
 Marco Tulio Ormas (Guayaquil)  
 Aquiles Valencia (Manabi)  
 Jose Maria Roura (Quito)  
 Nela Martinez (Quito; she asked that her election be unanimous, since the Central Committee desperately needed her services)  
 Hernan Acebedo (Loja, native of Manabi)  
 Jose Maria Davalos (Ambato)  
 Jesus Gualavisi (Ambato)  
 Segundo Ramos (Guayaquil, native of Babahoyo)  
 Neptali Pacheco (Zona de Milagro)  
 Pascual Palomino (Naranjal)  
 Franklin Perez Castro (Guayaquil)

40. The following individuals were elected as alternate members of the Central Committee:

Guillermo Canarte (Guayaquil)  
 Eduardo Gonzalez  
 Jose Villacreses (or Villacres)  
 Nelson Segura  
 Tirso Gomez (Quito)

41. Many persons considered highly valuable by the delegates were kept from the list by a Party ruling that all members of the Central Committee must have at least four years of "uninterrupted militancy". Two promising young Communists who were recommended for office but impeded by this ruling were Jaime Galarza, of Azuay, and Juan Arias, of Imbabura.
42. Dissension within the PCR. Debates in the Congress revealed extensive and bitter personal enmity among numerous leaders of the Party as differentiated from small-scale arguments on the floor. Among the more outstanding of the many such cases reported are the following:

Pedro Saad	
Rafael Echeverria	vs. Ricardo Paredes, supported by
Modesto Rivera	Alfredo Vera
Nela Martinez	

		Alfredo Vera, supported by
		Ana Moreno
Primitivo Barreto	vs.	Segundo Ramos
Bolivar Sandoval		Cesaric Valverde
		Ricardo Paredes
		Nela Martinez

Ana Moreno	
Segundo Ramos	vs. Manuel Medina Castro
Cesaric Valverde	

Patricio Cueva Jaramillo	vs. Nela Martinez
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Segundo Ramos	vs. Pedro Saad
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Alfredo Vera	vs.	Manuel Medina Castro, and Franklin Perez Castro, the latter supported by Juan Pio Narvaez
Jose Maria Roura Cevallos	vs.	Ricardo Paredes Maria Luisa Gomez de la Torre Nela Martinez Raymond Meriguet
Modesto Rivera	vs.	Maria Luisa Gomez de la Torre
Ana Moreno	vs.	Pedro Saad

43. The Fifth Congress of the PCE formally closed at 5:00 a.m., on 29 July 1952, after an all-night session.

- 25X1 1. [ ] Comment. One source reported 88 cell delegates, two foreign fraternal delegates, and 15 alternates. Another source reported 82 cell delegates, two foreign fraternal delegates and 21 alternates. In each case the total is 105.
- 25X1 2. [ ] Comment. Saad is Functional Senator for Labor, representing coastal labor in the Ecuadoran National Assembly.
- 25X1 3. [ ] Comment. Previous reports have indicated considerable anti-Saad, pro-Ramos sentiment on the part of coastal labor groups.

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